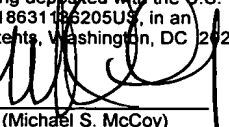


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU18631186205US, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 18, 2002 Signature: 
(Michael S. McCov)

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TC 3700
PATENT ROOM

Docket No.: HO-P01880US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Paul M. Ducker, et al.

Application No.: 09/615,978

Group Art Unit: 376

Filed: July 14, 2000

Examiner: J. Stephens

For: DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE
EMPLOYING AN ABSORBENT COMPOSITE,
AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

BOX FEE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for a three month extension of time to and including January 18, 2002 to respond to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2001. Our check in the amount of **\$920.00** covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) is enclosed.

In the event that a further petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted at this time, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to ensure that the above-identified application does not become abandoned.

01/28/2002 CV0111 00000065 09615978

01 FC:117

920.00 OP

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. P01880US1. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: January 18, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Michael S. McCoy

Registration No.: 46,913

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